



Jerry Wayne Gambill

January 12, 1947 - September 18, 2015

Jerry W. Gambill

1947 - 2015

Jerry Wayne Gambill passed away on Friday, September 18, 2015 in Bakersfield, CA. Jerry was born on January 12, 1947, in Shelbyville, TN to George Edward and Fannie Mae Gambill, where he was the first of five children and attended North High School.

Jerry joined the U.S. Navy in 1963, as an Aviation Machinist Mate. During his career with the Navy, he flew C130's and P3's as a flight engineer and traveled extensively abroad. In his 20 year Naval career he was stationed in N.A.S Lemoore; N.A.S. Point Mugu; N.A.S. Moffett Field; N.A.S. Barbers Point. He retired in 1983 as a Senior Chief Petty Officer.

Jerry went on to pursue his second career with the Bakersfield City Fire Department. He joined the fire department in the summer of 1983. During his 23 years with the fire department he received a California Master Instructor Certificate, where he instructed for Bakersfield College as a Fire Tech Instructor and trained many students and firefighters. He was instrumental in starting the CPR Training Program for Bakersfield City Fire Department, training numerous citizens and EMS personnel throughout his career. He truly enjoyed serving the public as a Firefighter, Engineer, Captain, and Battalion Chief. Jerry was respected by all fire department personnel as well as other fire department personnel throughout the nation. Those who knew him loved

him for his loyalty, dedication and admiration for protecting and serving our Nation and the Bakersfield community. He retired as a Battalion Chief in December of 2006 with 23 years of service.

Jerry is preceded in death by his parents and son, Michael Wayne Gambill. He is survived by his daughters Dianna Gambill and Michele Gambill; four granddaughters and one grandson: Courtney and Aaron Spillers, Elizabeth Gambill, Melissa Gambill, and Hannah Gambill; Three great-grandchildren: Patrick Spillers, Parker Spillers, and Ayden Spillers; four brothers and one sister: Ronnie and Donna Gambill, Patsy Gambill, Don Gambill, Michael and Eileen Gambill, and Eddie and Vickie Gambill; and two aunts: Virginia Neal and Pam Fatima; previous wives: Nancy Gambill and Mary Donovan.

The family would like to thank Dr. Raj Patel and Dr. James Saiki for all of their care and support during Jerry's life, and a special thanks to all of the Bakersfield City Fire Department and the entire family at Mission Family Mortuary for their support in our time of need. Any desired donations may be sent to the Bakersfield City Fireman's Relief Association located at Station 1: 2101 H Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301.

Visitation is scheduled for Tuesday, September 29, 2015 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Mission Family Mortuary located at: 531 California Avenue, Bakersfield, CA. Graveside services with full Military and Fire Department honors will be held on Wednesday, September 30, 2015 at 1:00 p.m., and will be held at the Hill of Valor at Hillcrest Memorial Park: 9101 Kern Canyon Road, Bakersfield, Ca 93306. For messages and viewing of remembrance photos go to: www.missionfamilymortuary.com

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **29**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

Mission Family Mortuary
531 California Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93304
1 (661) 323-3339
<https://missionfamilymortuary.com/>

Service

SEP **30**. 1:00 PM (PT)

Hillcrest Cemetery
9101 Kern Canyon
Bakersfield, CA 93306

Tribute Wall

LA

“ Laurie lit a candle in memory of Jerry Wayne Gambill



laurie - December 14, 2015 at 09:10 PM

MG

“ I have so many memories of Uncle Jerry and the whole Gambill family from decades back in Hawaii. He would stuff his pockets full of cookies and go looking for me in the neighborhood when I didn't come home on time, because he knew that I would be sent to bed without dinner. I never left the Gambill house without something such as play-doh or a coloring book.

Mindy Gay - September 30, 2015 at 10:10 AM

BV

“ Jerry and I flew as Flight Crew in the US Navy Squadron VXE-6 Home Ported at Pt. Mugu, CA. during the mid 1970's. Our mission was to fly summer support throughout Antarctica in support of the National Science Foundation. Jerry was the LC-130 Flight Engineer and I was the Loadmaster on our Flight Crew.

I have Always remembered the day we landed at the Absolute Bottom of the World known as "Dome Charlie" where the Ice Thickness was 13,300 feet! While loading JATO (jet assisted take off) to the rear exterior of the aircraft (JATO is essentially rockets designed to assist the aircraft on take off where otherwise would be very difficult) Jerry got my attention and pointed out to the horizon which you could clearly see the curvature of the earth. Most amazing site we both had ever seen in the 3 years we flew throughout the Antarctic Continent and I will, and have Always remembered that very moment shared with Jerry.

God Bless You and Rest in Peace My Friend.

Bill Vogel

Bill Vogel - September 28, 2015 at 12:31 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Jerry Wayne Gambill.*



September 27, 2015 at 11:54 PM

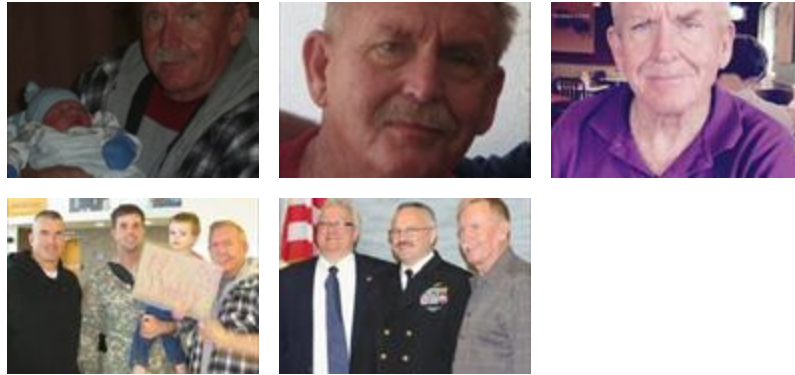
JL

“ One of my fondest memories of Jerry goes way back to Hawaii. We celebrated Easter together and after dinner he sat my girls Gretchen and Mindy in little chairs on the floating dock and proceeded to do a "magic trick". He was making paper napkins disappear. He was actually throwing them over their shoulders into the water. Mindy thought he could do no wrong! One of the many wonderful memories of a man who could be the biggest kid of all.

Joan Lindermasn - September 27, 2015 at 07:58 AM



“ 6 files added to the album Memories Album



Mission Funeral Home - September 23, 2015 at 11:01 AM